

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

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Nils Vest, Denmark, 1997

59 min. | DK/Documentary | Portrait films



In 1748, when the Danish architect Lauritz de Thura designed a steeple for Vor Frelzers Kirke (Our Savior's Church) on Christianshavn, he created a jewel of architecture which is simply one of the Baroque Era's most splendid works. How could a provincial one-horse town like Copenhagen suddenly provide the scenario for such an artistic tour de force? And why did he choose the spiral as a motif? *Himmelstigen* is an entertaining, informative and poetic documentary film. A swatch of Danish history, filled with dramas and intrigues. A documentation of an achievement of craftsmanship in the process of restoration that almost matches the time when the steeple was first constructed. And then there is the story of how the architect died. Did he really leap out from the steeple because he suddenly discovered that it spiralled in the wrong direction?

Basic information

Credits

Festivals & awards

Materials

Original title	Himmelstigen
Danish title	Himmelstigen
Other titles	Frelseren
Keywords	Architecture, Vor Frelzers Kirke, Churches, Copenhagen, Thura, Lauritz de
Director	Nils Vest
Screenplay	Nils Vest
Producer	Nils Vest
Director of Photography	Erik Norsker
Editor	Jens Bidstrup
Sound	Jens Bangskjær , Steen Kyllerbæk Andersen , Hans Packert , Jan Henningsen , Mikkel Bo
Composer	Anders Koppel
Appearances	William Vest-Lillesøe , Arne Jørgensen , John Hopalong Støckel , Hanne Birgitte Thingaa
Production country	Denmark
Production company	Nils Vest Film
Domestic distribution	Statens Filmcentral
Technical info	16 mm, color
Danish theatrical release	21.11.1997
Cinemas	Grand
Danish rating	Allowed for children over the age of 15

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